

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1091

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Carrie N. Griffith on her selection as the 2010 Hawkins County Teacher of the Year for grades K-4.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Carrie N. Griffith is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Griffith has recently been selected as the 2010 Teacher of the Year for grades K-4 by Hawkins County Schools, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, prior to receiving this prestigious honor, Carrie Griffith was selected Teacher of the Year for Joseph Rogers Primary School, where she has served with distinction as a special education teacher since 2008; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Griffith holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Family Studies with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education from Carson-Newman College and earned a master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education from East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, she began her illustrious teaching career at the Upper East Tennessee Human Development Agency, where she masterfully taught preschool in the Head Start Program; and

WHEREAS, before beginning her exemplary tenure at Joseph Rodgers Primary School, Ms. Griffith served with kindness and enthusiasm as the first regular education pre-kindergarten teacher at the Hawkins County Schools' Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) from 2001-

2008; during this time, her classroom was named a 3-star Pre-K classroom, the highest rating possible, and because Ms. Griffith provided such high quality early childhood instruction, her classroom was selected to be part of the federal government's Classroom Literacy Interventions and Outcomes in Even Start Study; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Griffith dearly loves her students, and she has immersed herself in service to children and others not only through classroom instruction, but also through her work with her church, Persia Baptist Church, as well as the Hawkins County Imagination Library and Of One Accord Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Griffith is an innovative and inspiring leader in education, as evidenced by her service as an Early Interventionist Specialist and Infant/Parent Educator with Tennessee Early Intervention Services and Tennessee Infant Parent School, the Interim Director of the ECLC, the Special Education Team Leader and Student Support Team Chairperson on the Joseph Rogers Primary School Scheduling Committee, a Mentor Teacher for new Pre-K teachers, and a Conference Co-Presenter at the 2006 East Tennessee State University Early Childhood Conference; and

WHEREAS, she is a valuable member of the NEA, the TEA, the HCEA, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and the Council for Exceptional Children; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Griffith has earned the respect and admiration of her community through her meritorious service and her dedication to her students while exuding a tireless enthusiasm and a willingness to try new and innovative methods in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, Ms. Griffith is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Carrie Griffith epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Carrie N. Griffith of Joseph Rogers Primary

School on her selection as the 2010 Hawkins County Teacher of the Year for grades K-4, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.